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Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Algeria:* draft resolution

Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[1] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Barbados Programme of Action),[2] the Mauritius Declaration[3] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Mauritius Strategy),[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[5] including chapter VII on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Please recycle

Recalling the outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[6] held in New York on 24 and 25 September 2010,

Recalling also its resolution 66/198 of 22 December 2011 and all its previous resolutions on the subject,

Welcoming the outcome document on sustainable development entitled "The future we want" of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,[7] the particular emphasis given to small island developing States in the outcome document, including the call for the convening of a third international conference on small island developing States in 2014, and the invitation to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session to determine the modalities of the conference,

Reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development is currently the primary intergovernmental forum for monitoring the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, while recognizing that the institutional framework for sustainable development, of which it is a central component, is currently the subject of review,

Reaffirming also that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, including their small size, remoteness, narrow resource and export base and exposure to global environmental challenges and external economic shocks, including to a large range of impacts from climate change and potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters,

Noting with concern that the outcome of the Mauritius Strategy review concluded that small island developing States have made less progress than most other groupings, or even regressed, in economic terms, especially in terms of poverty reduction and debt sustainability,

Recognizing that sea-level rise and other adverse impacts of climate change continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development, and for many represent the gravest of threats to their survival and viability, including for some through the loss of territory,

Recognizing also the need to promote the development of regional and national capacities for disaster risk reduction, including through early warning systems, as well as the reconstruction and rehabilitation of areas affected by natural disasters, including through the further implementation of the internationally agreed framework for disaster risk reduction, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[8]

Reiterating the concern that in spite of the progress achieved by small island developing States in the areas of gender, health, education and the environment, the overall progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals has been uneven,

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[6] Resolution 65/2.

[7] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

Taking note of the Leaders' Declaration[9] adopted at the meeting of the Heads of State and Government of small island developing States, held in New York on 27 September 2012,

1. *Notes* the reports of the Secretary-General on the review of United Nations system support to small island developing States[10] and on the concrete recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[11]

2. *Reiterates* the urgent need for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

3. *Decides* to convene, in 2014, the third international conference on small island developing States as called for in the outcome document entitled "The future we want",[7] which will include a high-level segment to build on the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, and also in the relevant chapter of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation regarding small island developing States, recognizing the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States;

4. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of Samoa to host the third international conference on small island developing States in 2014;

5. *Decides* that the international conference on small island developing States should:

(a) Seek a renewed political commitment by the international community to effectively address the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing States by focusing on practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, inter alia, through the mobilization of new, additional and predictable resources and assistance from developed countries and other partners for small island developing States;

(b) Assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy;

(c) Identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of small island developing States and the means to address them, including through the strengthening of collaborative partnerships between small island developing States and the international community;

(d) Identify important priorities for the sustainable development of small island developing States to be integrated into the post-2015 global development agenda;

6. *Notes* the efforts to implement the Barbados Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global

[9] Available from http://aosis.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/2012-AOSIS-Leaders-Declaration.pdf.

[10] A/66/218.

[11] A/66/278.

institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, inter alia, through the provision of adequate financial and technical support;

7. *Urges* continued and enhanced efforts to assist small island developing States in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy, and calls for a strengthening of United Nations system support to small island developing States in keeping with the multiple ongoing and emerging challenges faced by those States in achieving sustainable development;

8. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its twentieth session, to consider its role in the preparatory process for the third international conference on small island developing States and to ensure a smooth transition to the high-level political forum;

9. *Decides* to convene, in 2013, national and regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea regions, the Caribbean region and the Pacific region, as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for small island developing States to identify and develop inputs for the above-mentioned international conference that is specific to small island developing States;

10. *Calls on* the United Nations system in general and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, including regional commissions, within their respective mandates and existing resources, to organize, facilitate and provide necessary support to the international conference in 2014 on small island developing States at the national, regional and international levels;

11. *Decides* to convene, towards the end of 2013 and/or early in 2014, an intergovernmental preparatory committee, which will hold no more than four five-day preparatory meetings, and to take a decision on the organizational aspects, date of the third international conference on small island developing States and the duration and dates of the preparatory committee meetings during its sixty-eighth session;

12. *Agrees* that the third international conference on small island developing States will be convened at the highest level for the adoption of the outcome document of the conference;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include the regional, interregional preparatory meetings and the preparatory conferences for the third international conference on small island developing States in the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2013 and 2014;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to guarantee the convening of the third international conference on small island developing States and preparatory meetings and the effective participation of developing countries, in particular delegations from small island developing States;

15. *Decides* that the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995, applied to all

Member States and other participants, as was the practice in the preparatory committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, will be applied to the regional and interregional meetings and the preparatory meetings for the third international conference on small island developing States;

16. *Invites* all Member States and States members of the specialized agencies, relevant regional and international agencies and organizations and the major groups identified in Agenda 21,[12] in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[13] and the rules of procedure of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[14] as well as the established practices of the Commission, to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy and in the preparations for the third international conference on small island developing States;

17. *Calls for* the participation of associate members of regional commissions, in the preparatory process therefore, as observers, in the same capacity specified for their participation in the global conferences on the sustainable development of small island developing States, held in 1994 and 2005;

18. *Calls on* the Secretary-General, in consultation with small island developing States, to appoint a Secretary-General for the third international conference at the earliest possible time;

19. *Urges* international and bilateral donors as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors in a position to do so to support the preparations for the third international conference on small island developing States through voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of preparations for the conference, and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries, including the coverage of economy class air tickets, daily subsistence and terminal expenses, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the conference itself;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[12] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II. The major groups are women, young people, indigenous people and their communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, workers and their trade unions, business and industry, including transnational corporations, the scientific and technological community and farmers.

[13] See E/5975/Rev.1.

[14] A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1.